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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 7420

Takaei SASAKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1746

Serial No.: 10/706,944

Examiner: Michail Kornakov

Filed: November 14, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 101136-00103

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DRY-ETCHING HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT FILMS, HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT PHOTOMASKS AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF, AND SEMICONDUCTOR CIRCUITS AND METHOD FOR THE FABRICATION THEREOF

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Director of the U.S. PTO
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: December 23, 2004

Sir:

Applicants petition for an extension of time for one month for response to the outstanding Office Action dated September 3, 2004 from December 3, 2004 to January 3, 2005.

Please find attached a check in the amount of \$120.00 to cover the fee for the extension of time discussed above. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to Attorney Docket No. 101136-00103.

Respectfully submitted,

12/27/2004 EABUBAK1 00000014 10706944

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120.00 DP

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